

From: Surbhi Sarang
To: [Gentry, Nathan](#)
Cc: [Routt, Christiane](#); [Perry, Dale](#)
Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-007397
Date: Thursday, May 24, 2018 3:09:09 PM

Hi Nathan,

Thanks so much. We are ok with modifying the old request (EPA-HQ-2018-005636) to include the records requested in the new request (EPA-HQ-2018-007397) and then closing out the new one.

Best,
Surbhi

From: Gentry, Nathan <Gentry.Nathan@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 1:06 PM
To: Surbhi Sarang <ssarang@edf.org>
Cc: Routt, Christiane <Routt.Christiane@epa.gov>; Perry, Dale <Perry.Dale@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-007397

Per our phone conversation yesterday, you asked if we could close the new request (7397) and expand the scope of the old request (5636). We are able to do that. Please let us know if you're ok with that course of action.

Nathan Gentry
Scheduler for Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, Richard Yamada, Chris Robbins and Bruce Rodan
Assistant Deputy Ethics Official
EPA Office of Research and Development
Phone: 202-564-9084
Fax: 202-565-2430

From: Gentry, Nathan
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 2:34 PM
To: 'Surbhi Sarang' <ssarang@edf.org>
Cc: Routt, Christiane <Routt.Christiane@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-007397

Yes, I think those search terms will work.

In the interest of not duplicating effort, would it be possible to consolidate this new request (7397) with your old request (5636)? We would close out 5636 in FOIAonline, and combine all the results from that search with the additional results from 7397. Our IT staff could de-duplicate the results so we're not reviewing the same results twice.

Nathan Gentry
Scheduler for Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, Richard Yamada, Chris Robbins and Bruce Rodan

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From: Surbhi Sarang [<mailto:ssarang@edf.org>]
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 12:48 PM
To: Gentry, Nathan <Gentry.Nathan@epa.gov>
Cc: Routt, Christiane <Routt.Christiane@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-007397

Hi Nathan,

Thanks, we are able to narrow the search terms in our request to the following:

- “secret science”
- “reproducibility”
- “HONEST Act” and/or “Honest and Open New EPA Science Treatment Act”
- “replication” and/or “replicate”
- “dose response”
- “significant regulatory decisions”
- “transparen!”
- “independently validat!” and/or “independent validat!”

Please let me know if that will help resolve the issues or if you would like to discuss further.

Thanks,
Surbhi

Surbhi Sarang
Legal Fellow, Regulatory Defense

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From: Gentry, Nathan [<mailto:Gentry.Nathan@epa.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 9:13 AM
To: Surbhi Sarang <ssarang@edf.org>
Cc: Routt, Christiane <Routt.Christiane@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-007397

Christiane Routt, who’s been copied on these emails, would be reviewing for ORD (I’m just the FOIA

person for the ORD Assistant Administrator's office). After that, someone in the Office of the General Counsel would review; I don't have a name for that person.

Nathan Gentry

Scheduler for Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, Richard Yamada, Chris Robbins and Bruce Rodan

Assistant Deputy Ethics Official

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From: Surbhi Sarang [<mailto:ssarang@edf.org>]

Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 5:11 PM

To: Gentry, Nathan <Gentry.Nathan@epa.gov>

Cc: Routt, Christiane <Routt.Christiane@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-007397

Thanks for flagging—I'll check in with my team and will let you know if we can narrow any further.

With regards to the first request—do you know which offices specifically it needs to go through for review, and if there is a contact person I can check in with there?

Thanks again for your assistance.

Surbhi

From: Gentry, Nathan [<mailto:Gentry.Nathan@epa.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 2:46 PM

To: Surbhi Sarang <ssarang@edf.org>

Cc: Routt, Christiane <Routt.Christiane@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-007397

EPA-HQ-2018-007397 just popped up in my inbox after I hit send on my last email. Your previous request turned up over 8000 results for ORD alone, most of which weren't related to the Transparency in Science rule. Conducting the search as written is going to greatly prolong the review process. Would it be possible to narrow the search parameters by doing the following?

- "secret science"
- "reproduc!", not including use of the term within the phrase "no unauthorized reproductions of this document" or other similar standard disclaimers – **REMOVE, because we can't filter out those phrases automatically**
- "HONEST Act" or "Honest and Open New EPA Science Treatment Act"
- "replicat!" – **REMOVE (too many unrelated results)**
- "computer codes" - **REMOVE, as I don't expect any results relevant to your search**
- "causa!" – **REMOVE (too many results)**

- “uncertain!” - **REMOVE (too many results)**
- “dose response” – **I would suggest removing, as I don’t expect any results relevant to your search**
- “pivotal” – **REMOVE (too many results)**
- “significant regulatory decisions”
- “transparen!”
- “independent! validat!” - **I don’t think a search term can have two wild cards. How about “independently validat*” AND/OR “independent validat*”?**

Based on prior review, I think you’re going to get the vast majority of the documents you’re looking for with the terms “secret science”, “HONEST Act” and “transparency”.

Nathan Gentry

Scheduler for Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, Richard Yamada, Chris Robbins and Bruce Rodan

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From: Gentry, Nathan

Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 2:16 PM

To: 'Surbhi Sarang' <ssarang@edf.org>

Cc: Routt, Christiane <Routt.Christiane@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-005636

I’ve done my review of the ORD results from EPA-HQ-2018-005636, but it’s still awaiting review by several other groups above me. I don’t have an ETA. EPA-HQ-2018-007397 hasn’t been assigned to me, so I don’t know anything about it.

Nathan Gentry

Scheduler for Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, Richard Yamada, Chris Robbins and Bruce Rodan

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From: Surbhi Sarang [<mailto:ssarang@edf.org>]

Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 1:50 PM

To: Gentry, Nathan <Gentry.Nathan@epa.gov>

Cc: Evanko, Peter <Evanko.Peter@epa.gov>; Routt, Christiane <Routt.Christiane@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-005636

Hi Nathan,

I was wondering if you had completed your review of ORD's records yet, and if you had an estimate for when we would receive the first set of responsive records?

I also wanted to check in on the related, more recent FOIA request we submitted, EPA-HQ-2018-007397, to see if that was being handled through the same process and if work on that had begun yet.

Thanks so much,

Surbhi

Surbhi Sarang

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From: Gentry, Nathan [<mailto:Gentry.Nathan@epa.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, May 2, 2018 12:15 PM

To: Surbhi Sarang <ssarang@edf.org>

Cc: Evanko, Peter <Evanko.Peter@epa.gov>; Routt, Christiane <Routt.Christiane@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-005636

ORD's results should be done shortly, but they will still have to be reviewed by EPA's Office of General Counsel before release. I believe the other offices have begun their searches; here are the custodians for each office:

Office of Air and Radiation: Jonathan Lubetsky (Lubetsky.jonathan@epa.gov)

Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention: John Latham (Latham.john@epa.gov)

Office of the Administrator: Jonathan Newton (newton.jonathan@epa.gov)

Nathan Gentry

Scheduler for Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, Richard Yamada, Chris Robbins and Bruce Rodan

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From: Surbhi Sarang [<mailto:ssarang@edf.org>]

Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2018 12:07 PM

To: Gentry, Nathan <Gentry.Nathan@epa.gov>

Cc: Evanko, Peter <Evanko.Peter@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-005636

Hi,

I just wanted to check in and see if there were any updates on the progress of this request, and whether the other EPA offices had now received their results and had a better idea of their timelines for responding?

Thanks so much,
Surbhi

From: Surbhi Sarang

Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 11:24 AM

To: 'Gentry, Nathan' <Gentry.Nathan@epa.gov>

Cc: Evanko, Peter <Evanko.Peter@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-005636

Thank you for the update!

Surbhi

From: Gentry, Nathan [<mailto:Gentry.Nathan@epa.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 3:22 PM

To: Surbhi Sarang <ssarang@edf.org>

Cc: Evanko, Peter <Evanko.Peter@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-005636

Ms. Sarang,

I've got about 2000 documents left to go through for ORD; so far I have 249 responsive documents. The vast majority have been non-responsive, either because there are 10+ duplicates of the same file, or because the word "reproduc*" often comes up as a standard disclaimer (e.g., no unauthorized **reproductions** of this document). I hope to have my review completed in the next week, and then I'll have several other folks review the responsive results for redactions. Once the review is complete, I hope to do an interim release of those records to you.

Due to a clerical error, the other EPA offices have not received the results for their custodians yet. Hopefully they will get those results in the next week.

Nathan Gentry

Scheduler for Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta, Richard Yamada, Chris Robbins and Bruce Rodan

Assistant Deputy Ethics Official

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From: Surbhi Sarang [<mailto:ssarang@edf.org>]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 1:05 PM
To: Evanko, Peter <Evanko.Peter@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-005636

Dear Mr. Evanko,

I was wondering if you could provide some information about the status of this request. I am aware that ORD has begun to search for responsive records and I was wondering if other offices had also begun searching for records and if you had an idea about when we may expect production of these records?

Thanks so much,
Surbhi

From: Schumacher, Wendy [<mailto:schumacher.wendy@epa.gov>] **On Behalf Of** FOIA HQ
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2018 3:15 PM
To: Surbhi Sarang <ssarang@edf.org>
Cc: Evanko, Peter <Evanko.Peter@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: EPA-HQ-2018-005636

Hello,

Your contact person is Peter Evanko who is copied on this reply.

Sincerely, Wendy

From: Surbhi Sarang [<mailto:ssarang@edf.org>]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2018 1:22 PM
To: FOIA HQ <FOIA_HQ@epa.gov>
Subject: EPA-HQ-2018-005636

Hi,

I am writing in regards to FOIA request No. EPA-HQ-2018-005636, to find out who this request has been assigned to and to get more information about what processing has begun on the request.

Thanks so much,
Surbhi

Surbhi Sarang

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